

REMARKS

Claims 2-13, 22, 23, 28 and 30-33 are currently pending. Claims 1, 15-20, 24, 26, 27 and 29 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. The limitations of canceled claim 1 have been incorporated into claim 2, while the limitations of canceled claims 20, 24, 26 and 27 have been incorporated into claims 30-33, respectively. Claims 2 and 30-33 have also been amended to recite *inter alia* that the information added to the information database, including non-GPS data regarding an environment of the user that varies with movement of the user, becomes available to subsequent requesting ones of the user terminals. Claims 4, 5, 12, 22, 23 and 28 have been amended to depend from claim 2 in view of the cancellation of claim 1 and not in response to any outstanding objection or rejection. Reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested.

Initially, the undersigned would like to express his appreciation to the Examiner for agreeing to and conducting a personal interview with the undersigned on May 3, 2005, during which the merits of the outstanding office action were discussed.

The Examiner rejected claims 1-13, 15-20, 22-23 and 28-30 under 35 USC 103(a) as being obvious in view of the combination of Hoover and DeLorme. As claims 1, 15-20 and 29 have been canceled, the rejection with respect to these claims will not be discussed. The rejection is respectfully traversed with respect to all remaining rejected claims.

Amended claim 2 (including generally the limitations of canceled independent claim 1 as well as the above noted added limitation) and amended claim 30 (including generally the limitations of canceled claim 20 and original claim 2 as well as the above noted added limitation) recite, *inter alia*, mobile user terminals that each include a situation detector/situation detecting means (such as the situation detecting block 31 shown in FIG 2) for detecting non-GPS

information on the situation of the user that varies with movement of the user, such as ambient temperature, other weather conditions and noise. As a result of this arrangement, the center 10 automatically receives the user environment data from a mobile user terminal (such as the mobile user terminal 20 in FIG. 2) when a user generates a request for data retrieval from the mobile user terminal. The center 10, and more particularly the database construction means / database constructor, uses this user-provided data in constructing its database, and can therefore provide more detailed information to the mobile user terminals upon receiving subsequent requests from the terminals.

Hoover is inapplicable to the present claims at least for reasons discussed in the previously submitted Amendments and for reasons noted by the Examiner in the present Final Rejection. Specifically, the Examiner notes that Hoover does not teach mobile user terminals or data regarding an environment of a user that varies with movement of the user. In addition, the Examiner should note that Hoover fails to teach or suggest those limitations recited in amended claims 2 and 30; namely, that the user terminals include a transmitter for automatically transmitting the user-side information to the center when a user generated request for retrieval is made, and that the center, and more specifically the database constructor / database construction means, then adds this user-side information, including the non-GPS data regarding an environment of a user that varies with movement of the user, to the database, with the new information subsequently becoming available to requesting user terminals.

The Examiner cites DeLorme in an effort to cure the deficiencies of Hoover. Specifically, the Examiner asserts that DeLorme includes situation detecting means for detecting data regarding an environment of the user that varies with movement of the user. However, DeLorme does not teach or suggest situation detecting means such as that recited in claims 2 and 30

because DeLorme is directed to use of a relational database of goods and services information that a user can access and preview based on a preferred location of topical interest for planning an individualized travel schedule. DeLorme does not include, for example, a sensor such as the sensor shown in FIG. 2 of the present application, and is therefore not concerned with detecting varying environmental data such as, for example, data regarding scenery around the vehicle (claims 12 and 13), data on temperature outside the vehicle (claim 22), or weather or traffic status data (claim 23).

Regarding the above, the Examiner points to col. 35, lines 16-45 as describing scenery around the vehicle. However, the scuba diving example provided therein is merely information retrieved by the user from a central database and is not varying environmental data sensed at the terminal side by a situation detector.

The Examiner provides no basis for her rejection of claims 22 and 23 other than to assert that the rejection is based on "the analysis above." Applicants contend that the environmental data limitations recited in these claims is not taught or suggested by DeLorme, and request that the Examiner specifically address these claims in a subsequent communication.

Further, DeLorme does not teach or suggest terminal-side information generation means for generating terminal-side information, including non-GPS data regarding an environment of the user that varies with movement of the user, as detected by the situation detecting means. Put another way, the referred-to data in columns 22, 33, 73 and 75 of DeLorme is not information including varying user environment data detected and generated at a terminal side, but rather is information retrieved from an online interactive Travel Reservation Information Planning System (TRIPS) that enables a user to make travel arrangements from a personal computer 105 over a communications link 107 (col. 13, lines 31-46; col. 14, line 53 – col. 15, line 13).

Finally, DeLorme neither teaches nor suggests user terminals including a transmitter for automatically transmitting the user-side information to the center when a user generated request for retrieval is made, and the center then adding this user-side information to an information database, with the new information subsequently becoming available to user terminals. Rather, DeLorme is merely concerned with individually tailored travel planning sessions; none of the information received from users is subsequently accessible to other users.

In view of the deficiencies of Hoover and DeLorme noted above and in previous Amendments, the combination of Hoover and DeLorme fails to render the present invention obvious as recited in the rejected claims. Applicants respectfully request that the rejection under 35 USC 103(a) be withdrawn.

The Examiner has rejected claims 24, 26, 27 and 31-33 under 35 USC 103(a) as being obvious in view of the combination of Hoover, DeLorme and Mueller. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

As noted above, claims 24, 26, 27 have been canceled and their limitations respectively incorporated into claims 31-33. In addition, as in claim 30, claims 31-33 now recite situation detecting means for detecting information on the situation of the user, including non-GPS data regarding an environment of said user that varies with movement of the user. This language varies from the limitations originally recited in claims 24, 26 and 27, which recited "vehicle compartment air conditioning data" rather than "data regarding an environment of said user that varies with movement of said user." Also, these claims now recite a database constructor/construction means ...for adding information based on terminal-side information transmitted by the user terminals to an information database, including non-GPS data regarding an environment of a user that varies with movement of the user.

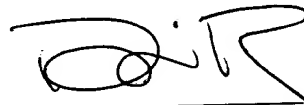
The above features distinguish the rejected claims from the cited combination for reasons discussed above in connection with the previously-addressed claim rejection. In addition, claims 31-33 are also patentable over the combination asserted by the Examiner for reasons discussed above in connection with claim 30.

Mueller is cited to cure the deficiencies of Hoover and DeLorme. However, Mueller merely describes the use of stationary reference stations 12 that monitor data from GPS satellites 14 and therefore have no relevance to the above discussed claimed features of the present invention.

In view of the deficiencies of the combination of Hoover, DeLorme and Mueller, the combination fails to render the present invention obvious as recited in the rejected claims. Applicants respectfully request that the rejection under 35 USC 103(a) be withdrawn.

In view of the above remarks and amendments, the present application is now in condition for allowance. Applicants therefore respectfully request a prompt Notice to that effect. Please charge any fees that may be due, or credit any refunds, to Deposit Account No. 50-1147.

Respectfully submitted,



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